

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 12 and 21 have been amended. Claims 28-46 have been withdrawn. No claims have been added or canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-27 are currently pending in the above-identified application.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and safe receipt of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-13 and 20-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Nutt et al (U.S. No. 6,449,331). Claims 3 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by Nutt et al in view of Boutenko et al (U.S. No. 6,332,014). Finally, claims 5, 18-19 and 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nutt et al in view of Ohnesorge et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,666,391). These rejections are traversed as follows.

The present invention is directed to a radiological imaging apparatus having a plurality of radiation detectors that output a first detection signal of X-rays that have

passed through a test subject and a second detection signal of γ -rays that are radiated from the test subject. The radiological imaging apparatus also includes a first X-ray source transfer apparatus for rotating the X-ray source around a bed supporting the test subject and a second X-ray source transfer apparatus for moving the X-ray source in a longitudinal direction of the bed. The amended claims incorporate all of these features of the present invention.

Nutt et al disclose that an X-ray signal and a γ -ray signal are detected by a scintillator and an X-ray detection signal and a γ -ray detection signal are output. However, Nutt et al do not disclose an X-ray transfer apparatus that moves an X-ray source in a longitudinal direction of a bed of a radiological imaging apparatus which includes a plurality of radiation detectors that output both a first detection signal and a second detection signal as mentioned above.

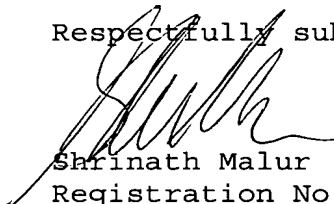
The deficiencies in Nutt et al are not overcome by resort to Boutenko et al or Ohnesorge et al. Indeed, the Examiner merely relied upon Boutenko et al for teaching a pulsing X-ray source and on Ohnesorge et al for teaching a collimator. In short, neither of these references disclose an X-ray transfer apparatus for moving an X-ray source in a longitudinal direction of a bed of a radiological imaging apparatus which

includes a plurality of radiation detectors that output both a first detection signal and a second detection signal as mentioned above.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Shrinath Malur
Registration No. 34,663
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120
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